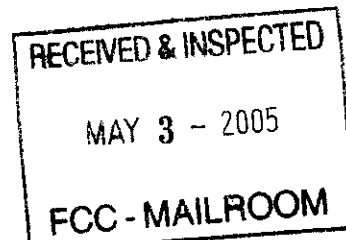




UNIVERSITY OF GUAM
UNIBETSEDAT GUAHAN

Regina



College of Professional Studies

School of Nursing, Social Work and Health Sciences

April 18, 2005

Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C.

CC: 02-60

LET FILE COPY ORIGINAL

Re: FCC Report and Order, Order on Reconsider

To whom it may concern,

We thank the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) for recognizing the health-communication divide that exists in the insular region. Thank you for Section 254 (h) (1) (A) ruling that precludes the FCC from designating an urban area outside of the benchmark for comparison for remote, insular areas. Since Guam, CNMI, and American Samoa are now classified as rural, we can finally take advantage of the Universal Service (RCH) program. Thank you for the rule change.

We would like to request consideration of an Internet subsidy discount rate that more closely parallels the E-Rate discount (90% for our region). We are over 6,000 miles from California (3,800 miles west of Hawaii) and a T-1 costs us upward to \$220,000/year which is well above our means. Some of the nurses we serve in the Federated States of Micronesia have annual salaries of \$5,000. Considering the economic disparity (the minimum wage in Saipan, CNMI is \$3.05/hr) and the vast distances involved for satellite communication, we humbly request a higher discount rate (subsidy) to be applied to the insular area. Currently, we are granted 50% discount off "advanced telecom services and only after... 25% discount for Internet".

Thank you again for the rule change and we hope you will consider our request for higher discount.

Sincerely,

Maria I. Salomon

Maria I. Salomon, DNS, RN
Department head, Nursing
University of Guam

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Guam Memorial Hospital Authority Aturidåt Espetåt Mimuriåt Guåhan



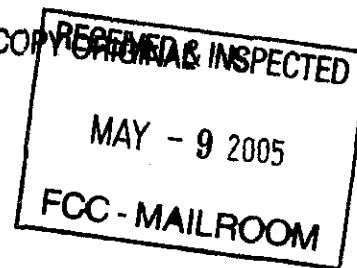
850 GOV. CARLOS CAMACHO ROAD

OKA, TAMUNING, GUAM

TEL: 647-2444 or 647-2330

FAX: (671) 649-0145

April 18, 2005



Commission's Secretary
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communication Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D.C.

CE: 02-40

Re: FCC Report and Order, Order on Reconsider

Dear Sir:

Firstly, the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority thanks the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) for recognizing the health-communication divide that exists in the insular region. We are especially grateful for Section 254 (h) (1) (A) ruling that precludes the FCC from designating an urban area outside of the benchmark for comparison for remote, insular areas. Since Guam, CNMI, and American Samoa are now classified as rural, we can finally take advantage of the Universal Service (RCH) program. The rule change is most welcomed and appreciated.

We would like to request consideration of an Internet subsidy discount rate that more closely parallels the E-Rate discount (90% for our region). We are over 6,000 miles from California (3,800 miles west of Hawaii) and a T-1 costs us upward to \$86,000/year. Considering the economic disparity and the vast distances involved for satellite communication, we humbly request a higher discount rate (subsidy) to be applied to the insular area. Currently, we are granted 50% discount off "advanced telecom services and only after... 25% discount for Internet".

Thank you again for the rule change, and we hope you will consider our request for higher discount.

Sincerely,

Peter John Diaz Camacho, MPH
Hospital Administrator/CEO

Cc: Board of Trustees
Chief Financial Officer
Admin 05-2395/MIS/Internet

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